REGULATION OF WIRELESS TELEPHONE SERVICE PROVIDERS

The following information briefly summarizes federal and state law governing wireless telephone service (referred to in statute as commercial mobile radio service, or mobile telecommunications).

FEDERAL LAW

47 U.S.C. 332(c)(3)

With some exceptions, states *may not* regulate:

- the *entry* into the market of a wireless telephone service provider; or
- the *rates* charged for wireless telephone service.

States may regulate other terms and conditions of wireless telephone service.

Truth-in-Billing

Under FCC (Federal Communications Commission) Truth-in-Billing rules, the following criteria apply to all telephone bills, *including wireless bills*:

A telephone bill (including a wireless bill) must:

- clearly and conspicuously identify the service provider associated with each charge; and
- provide a toll-free telephone number customers may use to inquire about or contest charges.

Under FCC Truth-in-Billing rules, the following criteria apply to telephone bills, but *do not apply to wireless bills*:

A telephone bill must:

- be clearly organized;
- clearly and conspicuously identify any change in service provider, including identifying charges by a new service provider;
- provide a brief, non-misleading, plain language description of services; and
- identify the charges for which non-payment will result in disconnection of basic service.

States *may* adopt and enforce any truth-in-billing requirement that is consistent with federal requirements.

STATE LAW

Utah Code Ann. § 54-2-1(23)

The definition of a "telephone corporation" over which the Public Service Commission and the Division of Public Utilities has jurisdiction specifically exempts any wireless service provider, if the provider holds a license from the FCC.

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